UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

# FSIS NOTICE	64-16	9/1/16

PARTNER GOVERNMENT AGENCY (PGA) MESSAGE SET

I. PURPOSE

This notice is a reissuance of FSIS Notice 45-15. This updated notice does not contain new or modified instructions to inspection program personnel (IPP). This notice provides an updated status of the Partner Government Agency (PGA) Message Set, and continues the existing instruction to IPP located at official import inspection establishments that receive PGA message set applications. This update also continues the existing instruction to users of the Automated Commercial Environment Secure Data Portal (ACE Portal) concerning the PGA Message Set. The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) continues to expand this initiative as Customs brokers develop their programming capabilities. Importers, brokers and software vendors that have successfully tested software capabilities directly with FSIS are added to the production environment (live environment) of the Public Health Information System (PHIS).

The PHIS receives import inspection application data elements through the electronic transfer of information from Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) from Customs brokers using the PGA Message Set. Mandatory dates for the use of ACE are outlined on CBP's website https://www.cbp.gov/trade/automated/ace-mandatory-use-dates. This requirement includes PGA data required at time of entry or entry summary, including supplemental data required to effect release. On the dates outlined on CBP's website, CBP will no longer accept electronic entries or related entry summaries in the legacy Automated Commercial System (ACS).

II. BACKGROUND

A. The Security and Accountability For Every Port Act of 2006 (SAFE Port Act) (Public Law 109-347) http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-109publ347/html/PLAW-109publ347.htm requires that all agencies involved in clearing or licensing the importation and exportation of cargo participate in the International Trade Data System (ITDS). The SAFE Port Act also assigns CBP the responsibilities to build and operate ITDS as part of the ACE project, an effort to modernize and expand the automated systems for processing imports and exports.

B. The ITDS is an electronic information exchange capability or "single window" through which businesses transmit data required by U.S. government agencies for the importation or exportation of cargo. ACE is a CBP system designed to facilitate legitimate trade while enhancing border security. ACE streamlines and automates collection, sharing, and processing of information submitted to CBP and government agencies, eliminating information provided in paper format, and enabling the international trade community to more easily and efficiently comply with U.S. laws and regulations. The ACE Portal provides information with which ACE account holders can identify and evaluate compliance issues and monitor daily operations. The ACE Portal allows users to access the reports tool, compile data, and perform national trend analysis and individual transactions-based analysis.

C. The PGA Message Set is harmonized information needed by federal agencies to approve imports of cargo. The PGA Message Set extends the electronic data that is provided to CBP to include the additional import inspection application data required by the FSIS. These requirements are defined in the PGA reporting requirements (PG Records).

D. Use of the PGA Message Set automates the collection of information provided by the importer of record (or its agent) on FSIS form 9540-1, *Application for Import Inspection*. These data elements are transmitted electronically when the entry is filed with CBP and eliminates the need for importers of record or agents to submit a paper copy of the FSIS form 9540-1.

E. The electronic submission of the PGA Message Set reduces the amount of information that IPP must manually enter into PHIS, thus saving time and reducing possible data entry errors.

III. MONITORING AND RETRIEVING PGA MESSAGE SET APPLICATIONS IN PHIS

A. The following instructions apply to IPP located at official import inspection establishments that receive PGA message set applications. PGA message set entries identify the official import inspection establishment where the shipment is to be presented for reinspection. By selecting "Pre-Arrival Shipments" from the Home page, IPP are to monitor PGA message set applications for their assignment by the estimated date of arrival. Additionally, IPP are to retrieve and review application data for accuracy and completeness in advance of the shipment being presented for reinspection as specified below in section IV- Verification. The ability to do so allows for corrections or adjustments to occur in advance of the shipment's arrival by comparing the application data to the official inspection certificate, thereby expediting reinspection when the shipment is presented.

B. Because use of the PGA message set for a shipment eliminates submitting the paper copy of FSIS form 9540-1 to FSIS, IPP are to retrieve the PGA application in PHIS when performing initial verification as referenced below in IV- Verification and when the shipment is presented for reinspection by:

1. Receiving the information (e.g. inspection certificate number, customs entry number, shipping mark) directly from the plant management; or

2. Using the paper certificate or shipping mark observed on the product in the staging area.

C. When IPP have the information to retrieve the application in PHIS, they are to:

1. Access the Find Import Shipment screen in PHIS.

2. Enter the appropriate data element in the appropriate search block, place a check mark in the "Include Unsubmitted Applications," and click on Search.

    a. For PGA message set entries, PHIS creates applications based on the inspection certificate numbers within the PGA message set data (i.e., one application is created for each inspection certificate number within the entry).

    b. Since import applications are created by each certificate within the message set data, the Copy ACE functionality will not be needed to create additional applications.

3. Expand the lot information to see the Lot Status. An import application that has been submitted by the broker with the PGA message set data will show the Lot Status of:

    a. "PGA Received" (see screen shot below); or,

b. "Ecert Received," including non-quota shipments that have been officially certified electronically (eCert) from the foreign country (e.g. Australia, the Netherlands and New Zealand).

Import Reinspection

Shipments

Find Import Shipments

	Application	Exporting Country	Inspection Certificate	Import Est.	Importer	Port Of Entry	Estimated Date to Present	Status	Copy ACE	Edit	Delete
▾	229652	NICARAGUA	8-7003	I17	NWD ENTERPRISES 12A	Philadelphia PA - 1101	01/15/2014	Unsubmitted	🗐	✏	🗑

	Lot ID	Lot Status	HTS Code	Product	Species	Processing Country	Processing Establishment	Shipping Mark	Date Presented
⬛	1	PGA Received	0202300200	Raw - Intact - Cuts (including Bone in and Boneless Meats)	Beef	NICARAGUA	8	471/13	

NOTE: An application that has been submitted by the broker without the message set data will show a Lot Status of "CBP Received."

D. Data elements that are transferred to PHIS from ACE in a non-PGA message set application:

1. Country of Origin;

2. US Port of Entry;

3. US Port of Unlading;

4. Bill of Lading Number;

5. Broker/Consignee/Importer Organization, Address, City, State, and Postal Code;

6. Customs Entry Number; and

7. Harmonized Tariff System (HTS) Code.

E. Additional data elements that will be transferred to PHIS with import inspection applications created from the PGA message set include:

1. Inspection Certificate Number;

2. Exporting Establishment;

3. Official Establishment (FSIS);

4. Estimated Date of Arrival;

5. Broker/Consignee/Importer First and Last Name (importer and consignee first and last name if submitted; not required);

6. Broker Phone Number and Email Address;

7. Broker Fax Number (if submitted; not required);

8. Consignee and Importer Phone Number, Email Address, and Fax Number (if submitted; not required);

9. Lot Number;

10. Shipping Mark;

11. Production Dates (if applicable);

12. Lot Net Weight;

13. Shipping Container Type and Number of Units;

14. Immediate Container Type and Number of Units (if applicable);

15. Process Country;

16. Process Establishment;

17. Source Country (if applicable);

18. Source Establishment (if applicable);

19. Process Category;

20. Product Category/Product Group;

21. Species;

22. Supplemental Product Code (this is optional data and includes the Global Trade Identification Numbers and Intended Use Codes separated by commas);

23. Product Description (product description will mimic Process Category/Product Category/Product Group or eCert descriptions); and

24. Check Box on Submit Tab (this check box is pre-checked when the FSIS form 9540-1 is certified by the broker in the message set).

F. IPP are to monitor the Pre-Arrival Shipments page for possible failure-to-present (FTP) shipment applications. When a shipment application has not arrived by the estimated date of arrival, IPP are to follow the instructions for FTPs in FSIS Directive 9900.1, *Imported Product Shipment Presentation.*

IV. VERIFICATION

A. Once IPP identify the import application in PHIS, they are to review the data in the import inspection application for accuracy based on the information from the official inspection certificate as outlined in FSIS Directive 9900.1.

B. If the information is accurate, IPP are to submit the import application from the "Submit" tab in PHIS.

C. If the information is inaccurate, IPP are to contact the Customs Broker/Applicant by phone or email to obtain any required information using the contact information provided on the application in PHIS. IPP are to provide the PHIS application number and a brief explanation of what information was required, and why the information was needed by email to robert.berczik@fsis.usda.gov.

NOTE: Only required (marked with red asterisk*) data fields in the electronic import application in PHIS are needed to submit the application in PHIS.

V. ACE PORTAL USE

A. FSIS ACE Portal users have the ability to view the PGA Message Set data for an import application through the ACE Portal. The ACE Portal provides the option of viewing the individual entry data for the import application, which includes the specific Partner Government (PG) records submitted by the Customs broker for the entry.

B. The tables below will assist FSIS ACE Portal users in relating the PG records to the information FSIS requires from the customs broker on FSIS Form 9540-1. These records do not duplicate the data elements that are common to both CBP and FSIS. For additional information on the definitions of the PG Records, FSIS ACE Portal users are to access the Customs and Trade Automated Interface Requirements (CATAIR) and their related appendices at: http://www.cbp.gov/document/guidance/pga-message-set

C. Additionally, FSIS has created a Compliance Guideline outlining FSIS data requirements at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/98c45f3c-8a5b-47d7-9907-2fdc7352547f/Data_Samples_Guidelines_PGA_Message_Set.pdf?MOD=AJPERES

Mandatory PG Records for eCert Countries

Record #	Required Data Elements
OI	Commercial Description
PG01	Government Agency Code, PGA Line Number, Supplemental Product Codes(if applicable)
PG06	Process Country, Source Country (if applicable)
PG13	Official Inspection Certificate Country of Issuance
PG14	Official Inspection Certificate Number
PG19	Exporting Establishment Number, Processing Establishment Number, Source Establishment Number (if applicable)
PG21	Importer/Broker/Consignee Individual First and Last Name, Telephone number of the individual, Email address and/or fax number for the individual
PG22	Document Identifier, Entity Role Code, Declaration Certification, Date of Signature
PG30	Official Import Inspection Establishment and Estimated Date of Arrival

NOTE: Importers/brokers are not required to provide lot information from the foreign inspection certificate to FSIS for entries from countries that have a government-to-government (G2G) data exchange interface and certify the shipments electronically (eCert).

Mandatory PG Records for non-eCert Countries

Record #	Required Data Elements
OI	Commercial Description
PG01	Government Agency Code, PGA Line Number, Supplemental Product Codes (if applicable)
PG06	Process Country, Source Country (if applicable)
PG10	FSIS Process Category, Product Category and Product Group (codes in Appendix PGA)
PG13	Official Inspection Certificate Country of Issuance
PG14	Official Inspection Certificate Number
PG19	Exporting Establishment Number, Processing Establishment Number, Source Establishment Number (if applicable)
PG21	Importer/Broker/Consignee Individual First and Last Name, Telephone number of the individual, Email address and/or fax number for the individual

PG22	Document Identifier, Entity Role Code, Declaration Certification, Date of Signature
PG25	Lot Number, Lot Production Dates (if applicable)
PG26	Shipping and Immediate Container (if applicable) Types, Shipping Mark
PG29	Shipping and Immediate Container (if applicable) Number and Net Weight of Lot
PG30	Official Import Inspection Establishment and Estimated Date of Arrival

VI. QUESTIONS

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Import Export Policy Development Staff (IEPDS) through askFSIS. When submitting a question, use the Submit a Question tab, and enter the following information in the fields provided:

Subject Field: Enter **Notice 64-16**
Question Field: Enter question with as much detail as possible
Product Field: Select "**Import**" from the drop down menu
Category Field: Select "**Public Health Information System (PHIS)**" from the drop down menu
Policy Arena: Select "**International Import/Export**" from the drop down menu

When all fields are complete, press **Continue** and at the next screen press **Finish Submitting Question.**

NOTE: Refer to FSIS Directive 5620.1, *Using askFSIS*, for additional information on submitting questions.

Assistant Administrator
Office of Policy and Program Development